Hostels for Scheduled Caste Students

*100. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to evolve a Centrally sponsored scheme to set up hostels at block-level, exclusively for Scheduled Caste students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) There is already a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to provide hostels for Scheduled Caste students through the State Governments/ UT Administrations/Voluntary Agencies/Universities at any place where the concerned educational institutions are situated, keeping in view the concentration of Scheduled Caste population in an area where the educational facilities are inadequate. The hostels under the scheme can be constructed for middle/secondary/college/university stage of education.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Commissioning of Assam Gas Cracker Project

399. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the issues on which the promoter Reliance Company is adopting dilly-dallying practice to defer commissioning of Assam Gas Cracker Project till such time that their another giant ongoing petrochemical complex at Jamnagar is completed;

(b) whether Government would seriously act to replace this alleged unwilling and sabotaging promoter by a willing company or by a consortium of public sector oil companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the strategy finalised to enforce immediate, time-bound commissioning by Reliance Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) The Gas Cracker Project in Assam is being implemented by Reliance Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. (RAPL), a joint venture of the Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) and Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL). The Gas Supply Agreement is under discussion between RAPL and OIL/ ONGC. As regards land, a site has been earmarked for the project. Some re-location may, however, be necessary on account of strategic reasons. The private sector promoter